

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended): A metal-coated cubic boron nitride abrasive grain comprising a cubic boron nitride abrasive grain, wherein the cubic boron nitride abrasive grain has a groove formed on the surface thereof, wherein the groove formed on the surface of the cubic boron nitride abrasive grain has a portion in which the ratio (w/d) of the width (w) of the portion to the depth (d) thereof is less than 1, and a metal intruding into the groove of the cubic boron nitride abrasive grain.

2. (currently amended): A metal-coated cubic boron nitride abrasive grain according to claim 1, ~~wherein the cubic boron nitride abrasive grain has a groove formed on the surface thereof, and~~ the cubic boron nitride abrasive grain is coated with a metallic layer comprised of the metal that intrudes into the cubic boron nitride abrasive grain.

3. (canceled).

4. (currently amended): A metal-coated cubic boron nitride abrasive grain according to claim 2, ~~wherein the width (w) of the groove formed on the surface of the cubic boron nitride~~

abrasive grain is in a range of 0.3 to 3  $\mu\text{m}$ , and the depth (d) thereof is in a range of 0.3 to 250  $\mu\text{m}$ .

5. (currently amended): A metal-coated cubic boron nitride abrasive grain according to claim 21, wherein the groove formed on the surface of the cubic boron nitride abrasive grain has a portion in which the ratio (w/L) of the width (w) of the portion to the length (L) thereof is 0.1 or less.

6. (currently amended): A metal-coated cubic boron nitride abrasive grain according to claim 21, wherein the groove, which is formed on the surface of the cubic boron nitride abrasive grain and has a portion in which the ratio (w/d) is less than 1, has a length (L) of 20  $\mu\text{m}$  or greater.

7. (original): Metal-coated cubic boron nitride abrasive grains according to claim 1, wherein an average diameter of the cubic boron nitride abrasive grains is in a range of 40 to 1000  $\mu\text{m}$ .

8. (currently amended): A metal-coated cubic boron nitride abrasive grain according to claim 21, wherein the metallic coating includes at least one layer selected from a group consisting of an electroplated nickel coating, an electroplated cobalt coating, an electroless-plated nickel coating, and an electroless-plated cobalt coating.

9. (currently amended): A metal-coated cubic boron nitride abrasive grain according to claim 21, wherein the metallic coating includes at least one layer of an electroplated nickel coating or an electroless-plated nickel coating.

10. (currently amended): A metal-coated cubic boron nitride abrasive grain according to claim 21, wherein an outermost layer of the metallic coating is an electroplated nickel coating or an electroless-plated nickel coating.

11. (currently amended): A metal-coated cubic boron nitride abrasive grain according to claim 21, wherein the metallic coating is an electroplated nickel coating or an electroless-plated nickel coating.

12. (currently amended): A metal-coated cubic boron nitride abrasive grain according to claim 21, wherein the metallic coating has a double-layer structure comprising a first layer of an electroless-plated nickel coating or an electroless-plated cobalt coating, a second layer of an electro-plated nickel coating or an electroless-plated nickel coating which has a composition different from that of the first layer.

13. (currently amended): A metal-coated cubic boron nitride abrasive grain according to claim 21, wherein the metallic coating has a triple-layer structure comprising a first layer of an

electroless-plated nickel coating or an electroless-plated cobalt coating, a second layer of an electroplated nickel coating, an electroless-plated nickel coating, an electroplated cobalt coating, or an electroless-plated cobalt coating which has a composition different from that of the first layer, and a third layer of an electro-plated nickel coating or an electroless-plated nickel coating which has a composition different from that of the second layer.

14. (currently amended): A metal-coated cubic boron nitride abrasive grain according to claim 21, wherein the ~~amount~~ratio of the metallic coating is from 20 to 80 wt.% based on~~the entire metal-coated cubic boron nitride abrasive grain including the metallic coating is in a range of 20 to 80 wt.%.~~

15. (currently amended): Abrasive grains comprising the metal-coated cubic boron nitride abrasive grains according to claim 1 ~~at a ratio in a range~~in an amount of 5 to 100 wt.%.

16-22. (canceled).

23. (original): A resin bonded grinding wheel comprising the metal-coated cubic boron nitride abrasive grain according to claim 1.

24. (original): A resin bonded grinding wheel comprising the abrasive grain according to claim 15.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
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25. (canceled).